

NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the

American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief

One Madison Ave.

New York, N.Y.

VOL. III.

JANUARY, 1919

No. 8—Total Number 20



On board the Mauretania—Dr. Geo. Washburn, Dr. James L. Barton, Dr. W. W. Peet

ADVANCE GUARD SETS SAIL FOR TURKEY

A British liner, the Mauretania, which has been transporting troops to the other side ever since the beginning of the war in 1914, set sail on January 4th, 1919, carrying on board the advance guard of an army of peace that goes forth to conquer famine, disease and death in the ravaged and desolate lands of the Near East.

This advance guard is the Relief Commission headed by Dr. James L. Barton and sent out by the American Committee for Relief in the Near East to learn what the exact conditions are in Turkey, to utilize this first-hand knowledge in organizing and directing the Relief Expedition that is to follow it, and to make known to Americans at home the present needs of the sufferers in the Orient.

The other members of this Commission are Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Curtiss James and Mr. Harold A. Hatch of New York City; Dr. J. F. H. Main, president of Grinnell College; Professor E. C. Moore of Harvard; Dr. W. W. Peet, who has been a resident in Constantinople for thirty-five years. Dr. George H. Washburn of Boston sailed as director of the Medical Unit. When they sailed

JAN 5 1919

the members of the Commission wore the forestry green uniform of the Committee which has for a distinguishing mark a silver star on the cap and coat sleeve. Two other members of the Commission, Dr. Stanley White of New York, and Mr. Walter George Smith of Philadelphia, will sail on a later boat.

The members of the Commission who sailed on the Mauretania went first to England to confer with the British authorities and with Lord Bryce, who is greatly interested in the work of the Committee, and who has arranged for the transmission of funds and necessary supplies; the French and British as well as the American governments have put all their facilities at the disposal of the Relief workers as they did for the Relief Expedition to Persia, thus effecting a saving of thousands of dollars.

The Commission will next visit Paris to confer with the French authorities in order that they and the Committee may fully comprehend each other's plans for relief in the Near East and co-operate heartily, enthusiastically and efficiently. The advice and help of Boghos Nubar Pasha, representative in Paris of the Armenian Katholikos, will also be enlisted.

After its arrival in Constantinople the Commission will tour the important cities in Turkey to see what the relief work has been and is now accomplishing for the destitute survivors of the massacres and deportations and to learn what can and should be done in the case of each individual center to substitute permanent reconstruction for the necessary but temporary feeding of starving dependents.

A Message from the President

The following cablegram speaks for itself. It was received by Cleveland H. Dodge, Treasurer of the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief.

"The appropriation asked of Congress for handling food relief is not intended in any way to take the place of the subscription being asked for relief and rehabilitation in the Near East. I hope that this subscription will not in any way be interrupted or reduced. The need is immediate and very great."

(Signed) WOODROW WILSON.

Note: The exact text of the bill as introduced in Congress provides for international relief, but in its present form leaves no room for relief for the destitute of Asia.

United State Government Aiding Campaign to the Utmost

Following the announcement of the appointment of Herbert C. Hoover as Director General of International Relief and President Wilson's request for \$100,000,000 for relief in Europe, Mr. Frank C. Jackson, Director of

Field Organization for the American Committee, visited the United States Food Administration, Washington, D. C., to learn if any of this fund could be made available for Armenian and Syrian Relief and to secure the endorsement and co-operation of Mr. Herbert C. Hoover and the Food Administration, Armenian Relief having come under the supervision of Mr. Hoover by virtue of his appointment. This visit resulted in the securing of a cable from Mr. Hoover unqualifiedly endorsing Armenian and Syrian Relief and the sending out by the Food Administration of strong telegrams of endorsement to the Food Administrators and educational directors of all the states in the Union. Mr. Hoover's cable and the Food Administration's telegrams follow:

Cablegram from Herbert C. Hoover

Paris, Jan. 7, 1919.

"The World Relief Program now being developed by the United States and the Allies contemplates that, wherever possible, relief work will be financed by the countries affected through the medium of loans or other government assistance. Nevertheless,

NEWS BULLETIN

Published by

American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief

Vol. III January, 1919 No. 8, total No. 20

CHARLES V. VICKREY, Manager

1 Madison Avenue, New York

NORA WALN, Editor

Published Monthly Subscription 10c per year
Application for second class mailing privileges
applied for under Act of March 3rd, 1879.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

James L. Barton
Samuel T. Dutton
Charles V. Vickrey
Cleveland H. Dodge
Albert Shaw

Talcott Williams
William T. Ellis
Hamilton Holt
Frederick Lynch
Nora Waln

distress and suffering exists in many areas where payment for relief supplies cannot be made. These charity cases will still urgently need private benevolences.

This is the situation with regard to the Armenians, Syrians and Persians. There is, probably, no greater suffering today than among the persecuted peoples of Asia Minor, who have no funds and cannot secure government loans and have no other credit. It is to aid this distressing situation that your Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief is making its appeal to the generosity of the American people. With your financing accomplished your Committee, representing these stricken people, can come under the direction of the new Inter-Allied World Relief Organization, and will receive its co-operation in the purchasing and shipment of supplies.

Arrangements are now being made to assign one complete flour cargo, now en route for Southern Europe, to the order of your Committee, and further supplies will shortly be allotted to you by the Inter-Allied Committee as soon as we are assured that the necessary finances have been provided." HERBERT C. HOOVER.

U. S. Food Administration

January 9, 1919.

To all Federal Food Administrators
except Alaska, Hawaii and Porto
Rico:

"Several Administrators have received inquiries regarding attitude



WILLIAM B. MILLAR

Director General

Food Administration toward campaign to raise thirty million dollars for relief Near East, including Armenia, Assyria and Persia. Food Administration unqualifiedly supports campaign. Mr. Hoover has cabled his personal views and urges necessity of campaign's success. Hope you will do everything within your power to assist in your State the organizations already formed for this appeal. Educational Division is sending details to Educational Directors for publicity."

HALLOWELL.

Educational Division

Food Administration

January 9, 1919.

To all Educational Directors, as per
list attached:

"Will you please hold yourself in readiness to announce co-operation Food Administration with thirty mil-

From the Council of National Defense

Washington

Office of Director

January 15, 1919.

My dear Mr. Jackson:

Following on my talk with you and a reference of the matter in question to Secretary Lane, chairman of the Field Division of the Council, the following wire has just been sent to the chairman of the State Councils of Defense and to the State Divisions of the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense:

"We endorse and ask your support for the campaign now being conducted by the American Committee for Relief in the Near East to raise thirty million dollars to relieve the unparalleled distress among Armenians, Syrians and Persians. This campaign has governmental status in that the relief which in the Near East can be financed by private contributions alone will be administered under the supervision of Herbert C. Hoover as Director General of International Relief. President Wilson has just cabled, "The appropriation asked of Congress for handling food relief is not intended in any way to take the place of the subscriptions being asked for relief and rehabilitation in the Near East. I hope that this subscription will not in any way be interrupted or reduced. The need is immediate and very great." Please arrange for all possible assistance from your entire organization.

GROSVENOR B. CLARKSON,
Director Council National Defense.

The relationship which the expenditure of your fund will bear to the work of the Director General of International Relief has made it possible for us to send this communication to



WILLIAM E. HOLLOWAY
Associate Director General

lion dollar campaign for relief Near East, including Armenian and Syrian relief. Supervision of this relief will be under direction of Mr. Hoover as director-general world relief. Campaign now has endorsement President and Mr. Hoover. State drive headquarters of relief organization will receive instructions to furnish you complete press information which I hope you will be able to use in co-operation with them."

ALLEN.

To further aid and co-operate with the State Directors and organizations throughout the country, the Director of Field Organization began negotiations with the Council of National Defense resulting in their unqualified endorsement and support of the relief work and telegram was sent to each of the State Councils of Defense and to each State Division of Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense by the National Council of Defense as shown in the following letter notifying the American Committee of this action.



FRANK C. JACKSON
Director of Field Organization

the state units of the Council of Defense system, and we are happy to be able to render assistance to you in so important a work.

We have already brought to your attention the request of the chairman of the Michigan State Division of the Woman's Committee for further information as to the campaign which is to be conducted, and we suggest that, if your Committee has local representatives in all the states, they be instructed to get in touch with the officers of the State Council of Defense and State Division of the Woman's Committee in order to give the definite information which will make possible the most effective co-operation. You will find enclosed the State list of those to whom our telegram was sent. Will you not also furnish this office with such information as will enable us to answer similar inquiries?

Very truly yours,
(Sgd) GROSVENOR B. CLARKSON,
Director of the Council.

CAMPAIGN IN FULL SWING

The \$30,000,000 Campaign for Armenian and Syrian Relief now being waged all over the country promises to be a huge success judging from enthusiastic reports received daily.

At the time of going to press Cleveland, Ohio, had already "Gone Over The Top" and many other cities bid fair to do likewise. Cleveland over-subscribed her quota by \$115,000, she was asked for \$635,000 and she turned in \$750,000.



HARRY G. HOAK
Director General of the Eastern Division

Harry G. Hoak, General Director of the Eastern Division, reports as follows concerning the Eastern Division which comprises the fifteen Eastern States from Maine to Florida.

MAINE: A. S. Bisbee, State Director of Maine, reports that Maine will go well over the top. Governor Milliken is giving a great deal of his time to his state.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: George H. Sisson, State Director of New Hampshire, reports very satisfac-

tory organization throughout the state and in Manchester particularly the campaign is assuming proportions that lend encouragement to entire district.

VERMONT: Roland E. Stevens, State Chairman for Vermont, reports that Vermont is coming along in good shape, but it has been a strenuous task.

PENNSYLVANIA: Mr. M. W. Stevens, State Director for Pennsylvania, says that Pittsburg put on its campaign on schedule time and has every reason to believe that full quota will be secured.

NEW JERSEY: The Campaign started on scheduled time, January 12th.

DELAWARE: Campaign will be deferred until a later date.

VIRGINIA: E. C. Cronk, says the campaign will go on all over the state on schedule time and that very encouraging reports comes from him to the effect that the campaign is being enthusiastically put on, especially in the larger places.

NORTH CAROLINA: Mr. E. C. Protzman reports very satisfactory results all over the state.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Mr. F. V. Dennison reports that one county in South Carolina has already doubled its quota and that South Carolina will run very high over its quota.

FLORIDA: Mr. Julien Rodgers reports his state completely organized and drive began all over the state during the week of January 12th.

TENNESSEE: Seth Seiders has probably the most completely organized state of the Eastern Division. Every county being thoroughly organized and the campaign was put on January 12th.

The Campaign has been postponed until later in the States of Massachusetts, Connecticut and

Rhode Island as well as in New York City and portions of New York State.

A telegram from Mr. T. A. Cannon, of Buffalo, reports that at a meeting of business men Ambassador Henry Morgenthau sold them Armenian and Syrian Relief so effectively that they have taken hold of organizing that city in a most thorough and enthusiastic manner. The drive was put on full force and assurance is given that Buffalo will go completely over the top.



EDWIN T. STEARNS

Director General of the Central Division

Edwin T. Stearns, Director General of the Central States, submits the following report from his territory.

ALABAMA: This state suffered from the hanging over of other drives. Strong committees have been formed in the cities and there is every prospect of it going over the top. More than one-half the counties have influential and responsible chairmen. The drive will begin February 2nd.

ILLINOIS: Under the leadership of Chairman John W. Thomas, Vice-President of the Central Trust Co., Chicago, and C. H. Green, Director, both Chicago

and Illinois are rounding into good shape to go over the quota of two and a half millions on January 27. Governor Lowden, who is Honorary Chairman of our Organization, is taking an interest. Organization slightly delayed in starting, but everything looks more than promising.

INDIANA: We are especially fortunate here in securing the acting genius of J. Irving Holcomb and A. W. McKean as State Directors. The War Chests in this state were almost depleted by the enormous amount asked in a former campaign. In spite of very severe weather and almost impossible roads, the original methods of campaigning will bring the state into line for the campaign beginning January 25th.

KENTUCKY: The influenza epidemic was exceedingly severe and has interfered with progress. It is very difficult to organize this state for a campaign owing to the tremendous rural districts. Through the co-operation under Director Mavity with the famous and efficient Chambers of Commerce, the state will be organized in every county through districts and its quota of 300,000 dollars will be raised. Judge Robert Vaughan, owner of the *Courier Journal* at Louisville, is thoroughly interested. Dr. E. L. Powell, Pastor of the leading Lutheran Church, is State Chairman. Kentucky will come in to the home stretch, winner.

MICHIGAN: The Quota Committee of the State War Chest Board has taken favorable action and apportioned 400,000 dollars of our quota for Wayne County, including the City of Detroit with \$373,000, to be apportioned, among other counties of the state. This comprised the major portion of the \$900,000 apportioned for the state. To raise the small balance James J. Spillane, our effi-

cient director, will organize a separate county campaign in each of the 24 non-war chest counties.

MISSISSIPPI: The personnel of our directorship and state Executive Committee assures that on February 3rd Mississippi will fall into line with a substantial average.

OHIO: Wire was received from the Cleveland War Chest this morning stating that they will give us \$750,000, this to be paid at the rate of \$150,000 per month. This is a magnificent example. Toledo and many other leading war chests have already given similar votes or assurances. Daniel Custer, the efficient State Director, is organizing the sixty counties outside of the war chest intensively to secure a substantial average on Ohio's quota. President Charles Thwing, our State Chairman, commands the respect of the entire state and is leading the Buckeye state to success.

WISCONSIN: This was the last state in the Central Division to start its organization. Director McCaughey has been handicapped by the very bad storms and health conditions, but is making very good progress and with the endorsement of the State Council of Defense and every other leading war organization is hopeful of successful results. H. A. Moehlenpah, of Milwaukee, our State Chairman, has enlisted his friends in our cause. With the unforeseen calamities Wisconsin will go over the top with its quota of \$600,000, in its campaign beginning January 27th.

WASHINGTON: Washington reports practically every county organized, many counties having already put on their campaign and reached their full quota.



CLARENCE P. BURGESS
Director General of the Western Division

Clarence P. Burgess, Director General of the Western Division, made the following statement concerning the West.

Seattle expects to begin actual campaign on the 15th. Most of the counties began January 12th. This State has been under the direction of two State Directors, one operating with headquarters at Portland and the other at Seattle.

OREGON: This State put on a campaign in February (1918) and therefore the present campaign will be deferred for a few weeks. Oregon has already sent in over \$200,000. Umatilla County voluntarily put on a campaign and raised their quota, having just reported to headquarters. This is the spirit that wins. They knew the money was needed and went out and got it without urging from the outside.

CALIFORNIA: California with the largest quota of any State on the Pacific Coast reports Campaign started January 12th. There are two directors in charge of the State one with headquarters at Francisco and the other at Los Angeles. The Federal Council of Churches is co-operating with the campaign in Los Angeles, where all arrangements have been made for a house-to-house canvass. San Francisco will put on their campaign about the 1st of February. Southern California reports nearly one-half its quota obtained.

NEVADA: The State Chairman of Nevada wires that everything is shaping up splendidly for their canvass and that the Nation will have no cause to be ashamed of the record they make.

ARIZONA: A combined drive in Arizona with the Jewish Relief. The campaign in this state got a late start, but is now going with full steam ahead and expects to reach quota.

NEW MEXICO: New Mexico has an energetic chairman who is giving his entire time to make this campaign a success. Blizzards and snow storms are raging in the mountains of New Mexico, but the State Committee expects to reach their entire apportionment. Governor O. A. Larrazolo has issued a strong appeal to the people of that state to respond.

COLORADO: Wire just received from this state reports 100% efficient with four counties already over the top. The Mayor of Denver and the Governor of the State have both issued proclamations calling upon the people to co-operate in the campaign.

WYOMING: Wyoming secured all their county chairmen two weeks ago, and campaign is now on full force.

UTAH: The Council National Defense has approved the entire

quota of this city and assumed responsibility for putting on the campaign. Later report—Utah over the top with full quota. Monday morning first day of drive. This is the first state to reach its quota.

IDAHO: Many counties in Idaho are already over the top. Most of the rest are ready for the campaign on time. The State Director reports that it will be an easy matter to reach their quota. The State Council of Defense has officially approved the campaign.

MONTANA: Carter County wires that their campaign has already been held and they have gone over the top. The State Director reports that six counties are over. The Governor has issued a proclamation.

KANSAS: A united campaign with the Jews in this State is now going on. Governor Capper is our Chairman and the situation is most satisfactory for success.

NEBRASKA: Most of the counties were ready for the campaign weeks ago. State expects to reach its quota.

IOWA: Most of the county chairmen have been reported to headquarters. The campaign started on January 12th.

NORTH DAKOTA: State Director was not secured until recently and the campaign will be delayed somewhat.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Many of the counties organized and the campaign will be put on as rapidly as they are ready. Part of the state will be late.

HAWAII: Supplies have been sent to the island and already reports are coming in indicating a successful campaign.

ALASKA: One half its quota already raised and promises to get the balance.

MINNESOTA: Campaign in this state on in full force and prospects are good.

MISSOURI: This state has two directors, one with the headquarters at Kansas City, the other in St. Louis. The campaign is to be held February 3rd to 10th. In spite of the influenza this State expects to reach its full quota.

OKLAHOMA: Campaign date postponed.

ARKANSAS: Practically every county chairman has already been reported to headquarters.

LOUISIANA: While the campaign will be postponed in this State until February 3rd, many of the parishes have already been organized and the state will be ready on the date stated.

TEXAS: This great state has two directors, one operating from Houston and the other from Dallas. The Governor of the State has accepted the Honorary Chairmanship and while there have been some difficulties in getting this state organized and the date has been changed to February 3rd to 10th, progress is being made and the campaign will be successful.

It will be seen from these reports that the campaign has already made a good start in every part of the country and it is earnestly hoped that the good-will—the hard work and universal co-operation manifested by all those who are lending themselves so enthusiastically to this great enterprise will bring it to the glorious finish necessary if 4,000,000 human beings are to be saved from starvation.

Cablegram from General Pershing

"Please invite Committee to call at these headquarters. All questions raised by you will be fully discussed and all possible assistance will be given Committee."

(Signed) JOHN J. PERSHING.

First Contingent of Relief Expedition Under Way

The first of a fleet of relief ships owned by the American Committee for Relief in the Near East sailed from Pier 42, North River, January 15th for ports in Asia Minor. This vessel, the *Mercurius*, was granted to the Committee by the Navy Department with the approval of the Food Administration. The President and Herbert C. Hoover, Director General of the Inter-Allied Food Administration, are in hearty sympathy with the aims of the Committee and are aiding in every way, as indicated by their recent cablegrams to the officials of the organization.

Carrying an assorted cargo of materials and equipment for relief purposes, the *Mercurius* will reach Constantinople in about thirty days, and begin the work of distributing food, clothing and medical supplies among the starving and plague-tortured peoples of Armenia, Syria and Persia, and among the Greeks of Asia Minor.

Another steamer, the *Pensacola*, similarly equipped, but carrying even more foodstuffs and other goods, will sail from this port about the end of the month. This ship also has been presented to the American Committee for Relief in the Near East by the Government.

Last week the steamer *West Cape*, laden with a million and a half dollars' worth of flour, sailed for Constantinople and Beirut, Syria. The 7,555 tons of flour are the property of the Committee, having been purchased with the co-operation of the Food Administration for distribution throughout Asia Minor by way of the ports mentioned above. The Committee has directors in this hunger-scourged area who are supervising the feeding and healing of millions of Armenians, Syrians, Greeks and Persians.

The *Mercurius* and *Pensacola* are loaded with one hundred motor trucks, thirty-six small motor cars, twenty motorcycles, fifteen ambulances, four and a half million yards of cloth, 100,000 blankets, 50,000 pairs of shoes, 1,000 cases of refugee clothing, 200 tons of foodstuffs, fifteen 100-bed hospital units, and 10,000 cans of condensed milk.

A special license was required from the Food Administration for the export of this great quantity of prepared milk. Were it not for the fact that this commodity is intended for hungry babies and children in the Near East, the Government would not permit it to be sent out of the country in bulk.

Captain Caleb L. Morris, U. S. N., commander of the *Mercurius*, will get



Members of Relief Expedition who sailed on the Mercurius. (Left to right) J. Edward Todd, Walter E. Curt, Henry H. Riggs, T. C. Linn, Edward E. Hadley.

in touch at Constantinople with the commissioners who sailed from this port a week ago on the *Mauretania* to make a survey of Asia Minor for the American Committee for Relief in the Near East. The commissioners are Dr. James L. Barton, Dr. J. F. H. Main, President of Grinnell College, Iowa; Arthur Curtiss James, Dr. E. C. Moore of Harvard University, Dr. W. W. Peet of Washington, Dr. G. H. Washburn of Boston, and Harold A. Hatch of New York City.

Former Ambassador to Turkey, Henry Morgenthau, who is giving a large part of his time to the Committee, was instrumental in securing the *Mercurius* and the *Pensecola* for the work, from the Navy Department. The *Mercurius*, formerly a freighter in the Dutch service, was taken over by the Government on March 22nd, 1918, and used as an ammunition ship between New York and Scotland. At one time she escaped from a submarine which was attacking her. Albert Staub, Director of the Atlantic Division of the Red Cross, has been in charge of loading the cargo, and personally supervising the work.

The motor trucks will carry the food to districts otherwise inaccessible. The commissioners on the way to the Near East will determine in their

survey where to set up the fifteen hospital units. Surgeons and nurses already on the scene, and others who will be sent by the Committee, will be available in the fight against cholera and other maladies which have sprung up.

The supply of blankets and cloth aboard the relief ship will help clothe many families. Military operations and the breakdown of commerce have prevented replenishing the clothing supply for civilians in certain Syrian and Armenian sections during the last three years. Consular agents in the East have included in their reports accounts of having found entire families naked.

With the Allies now in possession of the Dardanelles and the power of the Sublime Porte diminished, the way is now open for constructive alleviation of the distress in the Near East. The shoes, blankets and other garments on the *Mercurius* will be dispatched with a certainty of delivery.

Secretary of War Baker has informed the Committee that the War Department will send a number of relief workers to France on Army transports. This co-operative offer has been accepted by the Committee. Arrangements are being made with the



The Relief Ship, Mercurius, which sailed January 16th.

French and British Governments for transfer of the workers to Turkey and Syria by other transports, now in charge of the Allies.

Among those sailing on the *Mercurius* are Henry H. Riggs, formerly president of Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, a noted scholar thoroughly familiar with the Armenian and Turkish languages, he was born in the Empire; Walter Curt, formerly an instructor in the Naval Academy in Annapolis; Edmund E. Hadley of Grinnell, Iowa, who is a gas engineer; J. Edward Todd, of Lawrence, Kansas, who is an expert in gas engines, and T. C. Linn, who is a member of the publicity department of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East. These men will direct the unloading and distribution of the *Mercurius'* cargo.

Walter George Smith Sails with the American Committee for Relief in the Near East

Walter George Smith, president of the American Bar Association for 1918, and one of the most prominent Catholic Layman in the country, has accepted membership on the Commission to Turkey of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East.

This distinguished lawyer is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and was admitted to the bar in 1877. Besides his law practice in Philadelphia, he has served in many religious and civic capacities. He is chairman of the committee on resolutions of the National Divorce Congress and of the Convention of the American Federation of Catholic Societies, also Trustee of the Catholic University. He was formerly a member of the executive committee of the American Bar Association. He is a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and an honorary member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. As a speaker and a magazine writer he is well known. He is the author of "The Life and Letters of Thomas Kilby Smith".

IN THE NIGHT

(A true scene witnessed in Armenia)

I.

The night is dark,
The wind blows cold
What a pitiful sight I see!
Three little tots are huddled close
To their mother against a tree
Silent and unmoved she sits,
Her children sob in vain:
"We have not tasted food all day!
Can't we go home again?"

II.

The moon comes up
From behind a cloud,
And sheds a gruesome light
Upon a woman's pallid face
Staring cold in the night.
Three little faces all at once
Grow pinched, and old and gray,
Their voices die on empty air
Then echo far away.

III.

Once more the moon sinks sadly down,
As if to blot from sight
Three desolate, starving children,
Alone, alone in the night.

AGNES V. WILLIAMS.

Surviving Armenians Concentrated in Three Cities

British Army reports forwarded by Arthur J. Balfour, British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the American Committee for Relief in the Near East, bring information that 85,000 Armenians are concentrated in three Turkish towns alone, that 40,000 of these are totally destitute, that 3,000 Armenian workmen are being cared for in the relief camp at Damascus and that all funds on hand in the afflicted districts for relief work are exhausted.

The correspondence from the Foreign Office follows:

Foreign Office, S. W. I.

December 10, 1918.

Sirs:

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Balfour to inform you that a telegram has been received from General Clayton stating that the Armenian situation at Homs, Hama and Aleppo is serious.

It is stated that eighty-five thousand Armenians are concentrated in these centres, of whom forty thousand are totally destitute, and that the situation is aggravated by the approach of winter and the arrival in these towns of large numbers of refugees from outlying districts.

In order to relieve the prevailing distress, it is estimated that a monthly cash contribution of £25,000 (Twenty-five thousand pounds) in addition to a supply of clothing and necessaries would be required. The

total contributions hitherto received amount to £4,000 (Four thousand pounds) for Damascus and £2,000 (two thousand pounds) for Aleppo.

I am,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

Foreign Office,
11th Dec., 1918.

From Viscount Bryce

20th Dec., 1918.

Dear Mr. Vickrey:

Thank you very much for your letter regarding the relief situation with which you are dealing in Western Asia. The needs are still very urgent, and I sincerely hope that you may succeed in raising the large funds which you contemplate. American generosity could not have a worthier object.

We are delighted to hear that Dr. Barton is coming, and I hope to discuss the whole situation with him.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) JAMES BRYCE.

Armenians of America Wish Commissioners God-Speed

A farewell dinner at the Yale Club was given the members of the Commission the evening before they sailed. The Armenians of New York there presented Dr. Barton with a handsome crimson Turkish rug, and Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge with a manuscript Bible of the 12th century, the four gospels written on parchment in the ancient Armenian language with many elaborate illuminations; the backs are of filigree silver and the gothic case is of bronze.

THE SPEAKERS' BUREAU

The National Speakers' Bureau, under the direction of Mr. John H. Cover, has established Divisional Officers as follows:
Eastern Division, 1 Madison Avenue, New York—B. Marie Gage.

Central Division, 106 N. La Salle Street, Chicago—Alonzo E. Wilson.

Mountain Division, 1700 Stout Street, Denver—Wilbur F. Denious.

Western Division, 333 Mills Bldg., San Francisco—Speakers' Bureau.

Each state, county and city also has a Speakers' Bureau during the period of the campaign.

Former President of the United States Makes Strong Appeal for Armenian and Syrian Relief Campaign

William Howard Taft, former President of the United States and titular head of the American Red Cross, strongly endorsed the nationwide drive of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East to raise \$30,000,000 this week for the immediate relief and rehabilitation of the Armenians and other destitute and starving peoples of the Near East in a strong address at a public mass meeting in the Syria Mosque, Pittsburgh, Sunday afternoon (Jan. 12).

Concerning the relief campaign Mr. Taft said:

"The massacres and deportations of the Armenians and other subject peoples of Turkey was perhaps the greatest tragedy of the war. These people were not only subjected to the destructive cruelties of the war but also to the most fiendish viciousness of the Turks under the Turkish government.

"And these ruthless measures were applied to the Armenians for only one reason and that was because the Armenians were an obstacle in the plan for the extension of the German power in the Near East. There was no other reason for the attempt to exterminate the Armenians for they were the backbone of the Ottoman Empire. The Armenians made the valleys bloom as the rose.

"The history of the Armenian people is too dreadful to rehearse. In one of the deportations, one group was turned into the desert of Mesopotamia and the other group into the desert of Syria. One the march they suffered untold tortures and thousands of them died from starvation and the cruelties perpetrated on them by the Turks. Those now remaining are in the direst necessity possible.

"The American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, one of the most efficient of the war, is now appealing to you for funds. The government is planning to give aid to the starving people of Europe, but these people are in Asia beyond government aid and what the government can do needs supplementing from philanthropy. The government relief measures will require a little time to work out and in the interim philanthropy will be called upon to give aid to the starving people. And gov-

ernment organization could not properly take care of the relief for the Armenians and Syrians. The organization with the most elasticity is necessary in this case to render the fullest aid. This the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief is prepared to do.

"The American people may be sure that the moneys contributed to the Armenian and Syrian Relief campaign this week will be used to the best advantage immediately.

"Knowing the personnel of the committee and its work as well as I do I appeal to not only you but to all the people in the world to help in this cause which means the salvation of the lives of a people that are worthy of our best aid."

A Great Heart Lost to Humanity

The Executive Committee of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East today made public the following resolutions:

"Whereas, Theodore Roosevelt's death removes from our midst a man who gave himself unreservedly to the advancement of the race by his participation in many movements for education and relief, and

"Whereas, the men and women associated with him in these measures taken in behalf of suffering humanity have for many years been aided by his

eloquence and his power of pen:

"Resolved, that the Executive Committee of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East express its sense of profound gratitude for his labors in this field."

The members of the Executive Committee are Samuel T. Dutton, Cleveland H. Dodge, Henry Morgenthau, Edwin M. Buckley, Alexander J. Hemphill, William B. Millar, George T. Scott, James L. Barton, and Charles V. Vickrey.

Mr. Hemphill made the following statement:

"It was characteristic of Colonel Roosevelt that he threw himself with all his energy into the relief work which is being conducted in all parts of the United States for the millions made destitute by the war. He contributed part of his Nobel Peace Prize to the American Committee for Relief in the Near East, and in many other ways co-operated with that organization and scores of others of similar character. His pen, voice, and purse were at the command of such societies."



Women and children at a Jerusalem soup kitchen. If it were not for these kitchens they would starve.

Cablegrams

Received Through the Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Teheran—"Famine conditions prevailing. Hundred dying daily of cold and hunger. Imperative need for food and funds from outside. Armenia looks to America for her salvation. Reply urgent."

MAYNARD ELMER,

S. D. Washington, D. C.

Received New York, Dec. 27, 1918.

Teheran—Following received from Teheran: "McDowell wires from Mosul, ten thousand destitute refugee women and children. Condition pitiable. Origin of all Turkey. One hundred twenty thousand dollars urgently needed till harvest. Allen Bakuba telegraphs Bagdad account overdrawn two hundred fifty thousand rupees. This and additional funds urgently needed."

WILLIAM PHILLIPS,

Acting Secretary of State.

Received New York Dec. 27, 1918.

Teheran—The Department is in receipt of the following telegram from the American Legation, Teheran:

For Vickrey from Packard, Tabriz: "2,000 Christians, remnant Khoy, Salmas, Urumia, absolutely destitute, 10,000 Kurds starving, Sojbulak; 30,000 destitute, Tabriz. Starvation increasing daily, five relief workers imperatively needed immediately; three hundred thousand dollars needed per month."

For the Acting Secretary of State:

(Signed) WILLIAM PHILLIPS.

Received New York, Dec. 27, 1918.

Dec. 24, 1918.

Jerusalem—Bethlehem, Zazareth, Jerusalem send gratitude and good-will to Sunday Schools of America. General Allenby expressly requests me to convey his Christmas greetings to every scholar, teacher and officer, thanking them for last year's offering. Instead of giving each other presents we are appealing to all working in Palestine to devote gifts to starving half-clad multitudes Beirut, Tripoli, Lebanon, Damascus, Aleppo. The first to respond, contributing twenty dollars, are carpentry and shoe-making apprentices in Red Cross orphanage, Jerusalem, their pay being only thirty cents daily. Moslem, Jewish and Christian women in the industrial workrooms give day's pay, pledging themselves to encourage others. Captain Edgar reports from Tripoli thousands of Armenian deportees trekking from Hama across mountains to their devastated homes in Kessab, near Antioch.

Funds especially necessary to rebuild roofs, equip hospitals and furnish food and employment until harvest. 600 Armenian women and children deported by Turks to Bagdad, arrived by sea, Port Said. We are giving them a Christian welcome. Dana, Nelson, released from terrible experience Turkish prisoners, Constantinople, are here. They refuse vacation and press forward to Beirut immediately to shoulder with Major Nicol immense task of relief. This Christmastide humanity understands as never before the bright promise of Bethlehem and red sacrifices of Calvary.

(Signed) TROWBRIDGE.

Palestine—Following cable received Palestine: "Repeated telegrams from Northern Syria state refugees flocking back their villages in Aleppo Province. Two thousand five hundred destitute naked without proper shelter in Kessab. They appeal for immediate assistance. Prevent great mortality. Armenian, Syrian Committee." Judge this information is not new to you.

CORNELIUS N. BLISS, JR.

Bagdad—"Well, am proceeding Teheran with Robinson and Dr. Mary Griscom. Am planning going to Konia, Constantinople, in spring. Tell wife her letter received. White wires Azerbaijan imperatively needs five relief workers, we suppose, in addition to Pittman party. Allen joining McDowell for conference. Mosul regarding famine conditions there and proceeding Urumiah later.

Post.

Constantinople—Received by the Department of State, Washington, through the British Embassy, from Dr. Charles E. Gates, President of Robert College, Chairman of our Committee in Constantinople:

"When will the Relief Expedition fitting out for Turkey sail? Greatest need of haste. Conditions here are becoming desperate."

GATES.

Bagdad, Dec., 1918.

"Continuing relief work ever since March on borrowed money. Thirty thousand people supported by industries. Also hundred fifty thousand refugees from latest messages in hills dying by hundred daily from hunger and cholera. Turks and Germans removed available wheat. General starvation imminent. Wheat must be nego-

tiated from Cossacks. Immediate credit and additional workers, especially physicians imperative."

MAYNARD-ELMER.

Beirut—From Dr. Howard Bliss, President American College, Beirut, Bayard Dodge and James Nicol:

"Cable received. Need far outstrips Red Cross grant and generous funds suggested by you. People dying in Lebanon villages. Over six thousand destitute children in immediate region. Cable one hundred thousand dollars, Port Said. Deposit one hundred thousand Corn Exchange Credit American Press. Will advise later concerning further remittances."

BLISS-DODGE-NICOL.

Charles A. Dana, Executive Syrian-Armenian Relief Work, Beirut, in Constantinople, last year. William S. Nelson, American Consular Agent, Tripoli, Syria, state conditions extremely grave. Urgent relief needs among starving deported Armenians now in Asia Minor. Collecting at towns and railway stations, hoping to return to their homes. They say 2,000,000 deported, of whom probably 400,000 surviving. Resources inadequate and prices tremendously inflated. Personnel few and exhausted. Present relief adequate for only tenth existing need. With present relief resources not more than one-quarter existing Armenian population can survive until next harvest. One month's delay from now means 20,000 deaths and each month increasing. Account approaching winter most urgent need clothing for 20,000 persons, practically unclad, chiefly children and women. Also need food supplies—flour,

peas, beans, rice, condensed milk, fats.
(Signed) GIBSON,

HARJES, Finance.

Received New York, Dec. 23, 1918.

Tabriz—2,000 Christians remnant Khoy, Salmas Urumia, absolutely destitute; 10,000 Kurds starving Sojbulak; 30,000 destitute Tabriz; starvation increasing daily; five relief workers imperatively needed immediately; three hundred thousand dollars needed per month.

(Signed) PACKARD.

NIGHT LETTER

January 11, 1919.

"Reports from all parts of the country indicate strong organization and effective progress toward raising thirty million dollars, Armenian relief. One hundred nine counties, representing fourteen states, have gone over the top, raising over two million dollars. We asked Cleveland six hundred thirty-five thousand, they gave seven hundred fifty thousand. Rochester increased appropriation from their war chest from seventy-five thousand to two hundred twenty-five thousand. Meeting at Albany war chest communities. New York State passed unanimous resolutions, giving twenty per cent amount contributed by these counties to United War Work Campaign. Wire daily total pledges your state and specify communities going over the top. Depend on your state to raise its full quota. This absolutely necessary to raise thirty million dollars throughout the country which is imperatively needed to save starving women and children."

AMERICAN COMMITTEE for ARMENIAN and SYRIAN RELIEF

One Madison Avenue, New York

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

James L. Barton.....	Chairman
Samuel T. Dutton.....	Vice-Chairman
Charles V. Vickrey.....	Secretary
Cleveland H. Dodge.....	Treasurer

Chairmen of Local Committees are Ex-officio Members of the National Committee

Hon. William Howard Taft
Hon. Charles Evans Hughes
Hon. Elihu Root
Hon. Henry Morgenthau
Hon. Abram Elkus
William B. Millar
George T. Scott
Charles R. Crane
Frederick H. Allen
Charles E. Beury
Arthur J. Brown
Edwin M. Bulkley
John B. Calvert
Wm. I. Chamberlain
Charles W. Eliot
William T. Ellis
James Cardinal Gibbons

Jerome D. Greene
Rt. Rev. David H. Greer
Fred P. Haggard
Harold A. Hatch
William I. Haven
Alexander J. Hemphill
Myron T. Herrick
Frank W. Jackson
Hamilton Holt
Arthur Curtis James
Woodbury G. Langdon
Frederick Lynch
Vance C. McCormick
Charles S. MacFarland
John R. Mott
Frank Mason North
George A. Plimpton

Rt. Rev. P. Rhinelander
Karl Davis Robinson
William W. Rockwell
Wm. Jay Schiefelin
Albert Shaw
William Sloane
Edward Lincoln Smith
James M. Speers
Oscar S. Straus
Harry A. Wheeler
Stanley White
Ray Lyman Wilbur
Talcott Williams
Stephen S. Wise
Harry Pratt Judson
Col. Wm. Cooper Proctor
Hon. H. B. F. MacFarland